

# EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

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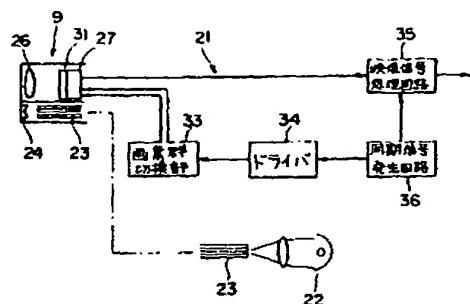
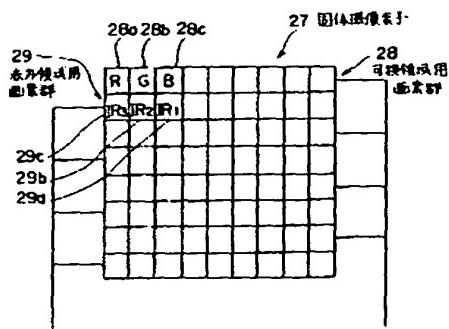
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TITLE : IMAGE PICKUP DEVICE



ABSTRACT : PURPOSE: To observe an image of plural wavelength regions selectively or simultaneously by providing plural picture element groups obtaining images of plural different wavelength areas so as to output the output signal separately depending on the kind of the wavelength region.

CONSTITUTION: The light radiated from an in-body lighting light source 22 is radiated to an object (not shown) through a light guide 23 and a distribution lens 24. The reflected light from the object is radiated to a solid-state image pickup element 27 through an image forming optical system 26 and a color filter 31. The solid-state image pickup element 27 has a visual region picture group 28 and an infrared ray region picture element group 29 arranged alternately by one line each and driven switchingly by a driver 34 via a picture element switch section 33. Then a signal 21 read from the image pickup element 27 is outputted separately by a video signal processing circuit 35 as a visual region video signal and an infrared ray region video signal. Thus, plural wavelength regions are observed simultaneously or selectively.

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